

The ANSGAR LUTHERAN

A Book with Inside Information

The ticket agent at the railway station told me that morning that seats on the train to Chicago were reserved, and no further reservations were available. Pressing urgency of the trip, I was inclined that I could try the conductor when the train came into the station. He might be able to do something for me. Given a seat in unfamiliar surroundings of a car, as soon as I could recon myself to make the best of it I took a New Testament out of my pocket, and decided to lose myself in the Book. Immediately the young man in the chair beside me threw his newspaper down, reached into his pocket, and also pulled out a New Testament, leaning over at the same time to whisper, "You and I have a great deal of consequence to read—inside information on the affairs of men." After brief introductions, we both settled down to the most important reading of our day, looking occasionally to smile or even to talk at each other, as men do who have a little more information on current problems than their fellows. For me that was a day of fresh insight into the place of the Bible in the lives of men.

A Hindu teacher said, "I began to study the Bible through someone saying that the best English was found in it. I read it for that purpose, but soon found myself forgetting about the language, for its message gripped me." It was a

young Japanese who said, "When I read the Gospels they spoke direct to my soul; and I said to myself, 'This is God's Word to me.'" Coleridge was right when he affirmed that in the Bible there is more that finds us than we have experienced in all other books put together. The Bible searches us at greater depths of our being than the best of man's philosophy.

Since my first serious introduction to Shakespeare, to Wordsworth, and to Browning, I have delighted to share their lines with my friends; but I recall that in my many visits to the bedsides of the seriously ill, none of the words of these poets seemed sufficiently profound for the time when death draws near. But scores of times I have read to Christians, "In my Father's house are many mansions." Repeatedly I have turned to the words, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me." To the dying sinner I have read of the prodigal's repentance, "I will arise and go to my father, and I will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven and before thee." Often I have opened the Book where Jesus speaks about a Pharisee and a publican at prayer "And the publican, standing afar off, would not lift up so much as his eyes to heaven, but smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner." Always the Bible has been

strength and life to men who have no time for trifling, but must have a sure word.

In this Book we read about Cain and his fleshly desires, and Jacob with his mixture of craftiness and deep reverence—and we see both of them in our own hearts. We spend an hour with Absalom, the vain prince, and Amos, the prophet of righteousness, and Jeremiah with his fountain of tears, and Ruth clinging to Naomi—and all the time we are discovering new perils and possibilities in our own souls.

Then we come face to face with Jesus, prophet, priest and king—the man of sorrows, the friend of sinners. We see Him as He moves among men, as He dies upon a cross, as He rises triumphant over death; and as we dare to look upon Him, heart and mind and soul are flooded with shame and repentance, and hope and love. Here is fact—the most tremendous and intimate and life-changing of all facts. Before Him our hearts are bowed, and the words of Thomas are on our lips: "My Lord and my God!"

Ought not this Book to be in our hands from childhood to old age? Ought it not be the one constant element in all the varying stages of education? And ought not we to show the way to all our children and to all men and women who know not its power, by ourselves being people of the Book.

—Free Methodist

News and Notes



Pastor H. P. Berthelsen Summoned

Pastor Hans P. Berthelsen died at Geneva, New York, April 27, 1956.

Hans Peter Berthelsen was born in Vissenbjerg, Island of Funen, Denmark on January 6, 1869. He came to this country as a young theological student and studied for the ministry in part of what is now known as the Evangelical Lutheran Church. He graduated from Luther College, Decorah, Iowa and then enrolled in Luther Seminary. He was ordained in 1894.

In the summer months of his seminary years, the young Pastor-to-be taught Daily Vacation Bible School in Lee, Illinois. It was here that he met and later married Gunhild Prestegaard who was his faithful partner and helper throughout his ministry. Following his ordination, his first mission was at Lead, South Dakota, in the gold mining section of the Black Hills and at Little Falls, Montana. His church work embraced 105 miles which was served by the young minister who covered his route on horseback.

Later he served as mission pastor in Momence, Kankakee, and Clifton, Illinois and at Indianapolis, Indiana in the old Norwegian Synod. Today these congregations are all members of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church. Included in his pastorates were Omaha, Nebraska, Rolfe, Iowa, Philadelphia, Penn. and Penn Yan, New York. Following his retirement, he and Mrs. Berthelsen continued to live in Penn Yan, New York until early in 1952 when, because of Pastor Berthelsen's illness, they moved to

Havertown, Pennsylvania. In the spring of 1953 Pastor and Mrs. Berthelsen moved to Pleasant View Lutheran Home, Ottawa, Illinois where, on June 20, 1953, Mrs. Berthelsen passed from this life.

In addition to his work in the Church, Pastor Berthelsen served as President of the Board of Publications for his church for 15 years; secretary of the Atlantic District for 4 years and from 1926-1944 as Editor of the Annual Publication, Dansk Almanak. In 1929 he was one of the leaders of a church tour to Denmark.

In 1934 he was honored by the King of Denmark and made Knight of Dannebrog.

Pastor Berthelsen came to Philadelphia when your editor was a student there. He was a man with a zeal for the right doctrine of Lutheranism, and I learned to like him for his sympathetic and understanding spirit toward a young pastor.

Funeral services were conducted in the First Lutheran Church, Lee, Illinois by Pastor Reuben Kruggell on Monday, April 30th. The sermon was delivered by the Rev. C. M. Videbeck and greetings were brought by Pastor Lawrence Siersbeck, and Pastor C. Berthelsen. Pastor Robert Berthelsen, grandson of the deceased brought a message on behalf of the family.

Survivors include three sons, Jorgen C. Berthelsen, of Brooklyn, New York, N. O. Berthelsen and Viggo Berthelsen, both of Chicago; and four daughters, Mrs. S. A. Petersen of Batavia; Mrs. Vagn Ewaldsen of Havertown, Pa.; Mrs. Esther Christensen of Geneva, New York and Mrs. Ivan Christensen of New Hartford, New York; sixteen grandchildren and twenty great-grandchildren. Also surviving are a brother and sister living in Denmark—Pastor Jorgen Berthelsen and Andrea Berthelsen.

WANTED, by the Sunday School of Our Saviors Community Lutheran Church, Hussar, Alberta, Canada, 20 copies of the Junior Hymnal, in good condition.

To Pastors and Secretaries of congregations: If any changes have been made in offices of president, secretary, treasurer or Sunday School superintendent since the parochial report was sent to the Statistician, please report such to me immediately in order that it may enter the Yearbook. P. C. Jensen, Blair, N.

Shennington, Wis., George Deming Pastor. Sunday, April 22, 1956, a memorable day for the people of St. Peter's. On this day we had dedication and consecration of several additions to our church.

At the morning service, Chaplain L. G. C. Pedersen of the Veterans Hospital of Tomah, Wis., a former pastor, brought the message. Following the service, the congregation of friends gathered together in the church basement and enjoyed good Christian fellowship at a pot-luck dinner.

The dedication service was in the afternoon. Rev. Adolph Petersen, Vice-consin District president, was guest speaker at this service. Rev. Sid Jorgensen, pastor at Camp Douglas and New Lisbon, brought a greeting and favored us with a solo. Miss C. Pedersen, daughter of the Chaplain Pedersen, also added to the program with a solo. Members of the church shared Scripture by reading certain passages pertinent to the occasion.

Dedicated and consecrated on that day were: New lights in the narthex. These lights were donated by various individuals. A new Baldwin Organ. This organ was bought and paid for by the young people of the church. New carpeting in the chancel choir loft and church aisle. This was donated by the ladies aid. Pews which we purchased from Poy Sippi through donations from various members, were also re-consecrated. New choir robes for both the Junior and Senior choirs. These were purchased by the respective organizations. Also consecrated was the decorating job which was just completed in the upstairs of the church. This included painting of the walls and ceiling, and gold stenciling HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, above the chancel arch.

(Continued on page 13)

THE ANSGAR LUTHERAN. Official Organ of the United Evangelical Lutheran Church, published weekly by Lutheran Publishing House, Blair, Nebr.

Otto H. Stave, Business Manager. Subscription price: United States and Canada, \$3.00 per year in advance; foreign countries, \$4.00. Everything pertaining to the Youth Department should be sent to Rev. John W. Nielsen, 316 N. Plum St., Northfield, Minn. A special rate of \$2.00 per year is offered Bible classes and organizations of the church when ten or more copies are sent to one address, and \$2.00 a year if the congregation has The Ansgar Lutheran in every home—Church Paper in Every Home Plan. Subscriptions, remittances, change of address, advertisements and all communications pertaining to the Business Department should be sent to the Lutheran Publishing House, Blair, Nebr. When CHANGE OF ADDRESS is desired give old as well as new address. Entered as second class matter, December 14, 1919 at the Post Office at Blair, Nebr., under Act of March 3, 1879.

Much of our news is received from Religious News Service, and the News Bureau of the National Lutheran Council.

JOHN M. JENSEN, Editor
321 E. 8th Street
Spencer, Iowa

Editorials and Comments

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

We print a good deal of the synodical president's report in this issue. There are some other points in the reports that we shall mention. Under the report of the Home Mission it is suggested that the Tabor Lutheran Church, Salt Lake City, be placed under the supervision of the Home Mission Board. The synod has two orphanages, one at Elk Horn, Iowa, and one at Oaks, Okla. Homes for the aged are operated in connection with the synod.

The Women's Missionary Society is commended for its work. It raised over \$20,000 last year.

The Luther League work is discussed. A full time League Director, the Rev. George Robertson, has been working since February. It is expected that great things will come out of this office.

Stewardship

Dr. Jersild also discusses stewardship. He reports that a total of \$2,757,370.47 was given by the 36,479 confirmed members in the synod. This sum was given for local, synodical and world needs. We think it is very well done. It means that about \$75.58 was given by each confirmed member of the synod.

Out of this total sum \$592,520.79 was given to synod, districts, foreign missions and Lutheran World Action. This is about \$16.50 per confirmed member during the year.

Again we say well done. Many of our congregations are small. They have their pastor's salary to care for the expenses of the upkeep of their church. Dr. Jersild mentions that the congregation has a duty toward the work of the synod. We agree with this statement. There is one point, however, that the president could have mentioned, the pastors' salaries. They are generally too low in our synod. A small congregation is often in a dilemma. It must pay the district, synodical and Lutheran World Action budget and foreign mission budget but it should also give the pastor a decent salary. We think it is remarkable that our congregations are doing so well, when we think of the average low salaries of our pastors. It certainly speaks well for the pastors that they try to raise the rather high synodical budget plus the other budgets, when they themselves are not paid good salaries.

TRINITY SEMINARY AT LINCOLN?

No doubt comes as a surprise that the School Board suggests that the seminary be moved to Lincoln, Nebraska. Pastor Bondo writes about it in this issue, and his article about it will appear in the next issue. We

are not really able to analyze in detail what this may mean both for us and for the new church. It is unfortunate that the suggestion comes so late that there is little time to think about it. But there are some points that might be discussed.

1. We must be sure that the seminary, if moved to Lincoln, will be able to survive in the new church. If it is not, it would be unwise to move it. Of course no one can decide what the future will bring. The moving of the seminary will cost more than to keep it at Blair. The Board has not suggested any figure. The cost may not, however, be prohibitive for the synod.

2. How can we be reasonably sure that the Lincoln location will make the seminary survive?

3. Of course, we have the right to locate it any place we like, as long as we pay the bill ourselves. There is another factor, that of students. Will we be able, during the next four years, to draw a sufficient number of students and create a spirit and reputation that will speak for itself in 1960-61?

4. In conclusion, let us say we are sure the Board has not come with this suggestion lightly. Let us study it from all angles. However, we believe that our chief problem is to build up Dana where it is.

The Board will no doubt be able to answer some of these questions. We have been thinking that this problem is so big that it might be a good idea to elect a fairly large committee at the convention to study it. It is not going to be easy to discuss it in all its aspects on the convention floor.

IMPORTANT THINGS AT THE ANNUAL CONVENTION

The convention at Cedar Falls, Iowa, will be the most important convention of the U.E.L.C. since the organizing convention in Minneapolis, Minn., 1896. 60 years ago the delegates and pastors met and organized our present synod. By the grace of God we have been permitted to serve in his vineyard during sixty years. During that time the synod has grown from 13,000 to 60,000 members. The synod has experimented with some schools, such as at Racine, Wis. and Elk Horn, Iowa. We have now Dana College and Trinity Seminary at Blair, Nebr. Our synod has sent out a goodly number of foreign missionaries during that time. We have been conducting work among the Indians in Oklahoma and among the Mormons in Utah.

When we meet at Cedar Falls it is not to organize but to decide to unite with two other Lutheran bodies, the American Lutheran Church and the Evangelical Lutheran Church, and we hope the Lutheran Free Church will be with us before the actual date, Jan. 1, 1960.

It goes without saying that some will think that it is too bad to give up our identity. They have the same feeling as when a congregation leaves an old church and moves into a new one. Yet this is the way of life. When we have voted favorably on this question, we

(Continued on page 9)

A NEW HOME FOR TRINITY SEMINARY

By Ervin Bondo, Secretary, Board of Education

Lincoln, Nebraska is proposed as the new location for Trinity Seminary by the Board of Education of the U.E.L.C. This proposal will be presented to the 1956 convention of Synod. The new item in this proposal is the location, for some form of relocation has been proposed in previous years. In 1947 and 1948 two different proposals for relocation received serious consideration. The church should know why this proposal is made now.

Planning

Several years ago the impression of many in the U.E.L.C. was that our church would not insist on maintaining Trinity Seminary as a separate theological school should union with the other churches of the American Lutheran Conference as originally conceived be achieved. At that time it was felt that Trinity Seminary should be merged with one of the other seminaries of the merging churches and thus make a contribution in the stream of the new church life.

Conferences among the representatives of the various churches from the educational institutions and divisions were begun. When one of the bodies withdrew from union negotiations the conferences between the boards and the committees of the various churches were postponed. It was decided that these should await more groundwork and preparation of plans and blueprints. In 1955 a meeting was called, postponed, and cancelled. We in the U.E.L.C. Board of Education had had hopes of enlightenment and guidance from this conference for we had the problem in theological training acutely before us. We are still disappointed that the conferences were cancelled. So the late fall of 1955 had arrived and we discovered that we would have to make our own plans and attempt an intelligent solution by ourselves.

A Place For Trinity Seminary

Further thought was given to the future of our seminary. A new impression that we ought to continue and "be certified" to the new church swelled up. California and the Pacific Northwest were thought about as possible locations. In these territories Trinity could also serve the new church to be. It would be a move for the future. Since our church is the small body in the present Lutheran Church union picture we felt that we would need "the blessing" of the Union Committee before definite explorations were made. (We were unable to meet officially with Boards of Education for planning.) Consequently, our members of the Union Committee were asked to present our problem in March. The answer received can be pretty well summed up in that it would not be propitious for us to relocate Trinity Seminary in California or the Pacific Northwest in view of our lack of strength in these territories.

We are convinced that if Trinity Seminary is to live now and in the new church a new home for her has to be found. We have been informed that Trinity Seminary has been designated as beneficiary in an estate and that we might expect about \$20,000 in cash. Someone thought there ought to be a place for Trinity Seminary now. These two facts have given us new impetus.

Relocation Necessary

It is now quite well agreed between faculty and board members that to continue Trinity Seminary on the Dana Campus is tantamount to folding up the tent and sadly

slipping away. Students felt the need of new experience at other campuses. They did not want to stay seven years on one campus. The professors felt the difficulties at home. Some of the students had studied under them in college. Christianity courses. This discouraging situation has seemed unsurmountable. The trend has been in evidence for several years but now is critical. Consequently many of us are convinced that it is **simply unrealistic** to take the position "us stay as we are until 1960 (or whenever the union is consummated)." The Ansgar Lutheran several weeks ago carried the announcement of Dean Jensen's resignation. Paul Nyholm is at Wartburg Seminary this year on a leave. We have no permanent New Testament professor at present time. **This is the crucial time.** If we want to certify Trinity Seminary to the new church for 1960 we will have to arrive at some other solution than the status quo. We have a good reason to believe that should the church decide to relocate Trinity Seminary at Lincoln with wholehearted support **we will have the faculty** and a "going" institution to certify to the new church. Otherwise, it seems certain to us, that the church is simply saying "Let Trinity Seminary die now."

Why Lincoln?

To relocate Trinity Seminary at Lincoln, Nebraska will serve the U.E.L.C. and will serve the new church of the future. First of all, it will serve the United Evangelical Lutheran Church as it is still a central location. It is far from Lincoln to the geographical center of the United States. It is very close to the geographical center of the church it now serves. As long as we are a separate synod this is important. Without a good seminary of our own we will be unable to supply pastors for our churches. Men trained in our seminaries tend to gravitate toward their churches. The way it is now we will be short of pastors in 1956. The other synods of the churches interested in merger now are also short of pastors. Should the union be postponed beyond 1960, as some are suggesting now, we will be in an extremely difficult situation if we "let Trinity die." The only other solution to relocation such as Lincoln would be a merger wherein we would still have a share in another seminary.

Lincoln, Nebraska as a location for Trinity Seminary would serve the new church also. It would not be an intrusion into the territory of another church, since it is basically in the same territory as we now are located. Lincoln is the home of the flourishing University of Nebraska. Likewise it is the state capital. There is an educational and cultural atmosphere that would be conducive to good seminary training. Likewise interchange for students at both seminary and graduate school in the university would be possible. Here are headquarters for the social service agency of the Lutheran Churches of Nebraska and seminarians could get additional training in clinical work. The National Lutheran Council has a strong student program at the Nebraska University campus. In the developing social work where professors have opportunities to teach courses. The Christian Faith in Schools of Religion, or through Chairs of Religion, or in Lutheran campus work at student centers, such a location would be a splendid opportunity.

Long range forecasts are for much future industrial development up the Missouri River country and into the Great Plains.

(Continued on page 9)

Church News from here and there

Methodist Women Ministers Warned On 'Petticoat Privileges'

Minneapolis, Minn.—Women ministers of The Methodist Church, who are given full clergy rights by their denomination's General Conference here, have been warned not to ask to expect "petticoat privileges."

The warning came from the Rev. Margaret Henrichsen, pastor of nine Methodist churches in Maine and perhaps the best known woman pastor in the denomination.

In an "open letter" to women ministers published in the General Conference's Daily Christian Advocate, Mrs. Henrichsen wrote:

"We must recognize that we are in a trial not only in our Conferences but before the world-wide Church. Let us resolve to be ministers in every fine and high sense of the word. Let us avoid the sin of aggressiveness which will certainly detract from our Christian witness, but rather with modesty and quiet dignity so conduct ourselves in the Conference that our brothers will be glad that they have enacted this legislation.

"Let us be especially careful not to ask for nor expect what one brother has called 'petticoat privileges.'

"We are being given the same Conference relationship as the man. Let us be equally ready to carry our share of Conference responsibility, and remember our Lord's word about seeking the lowest place.

"It is a responsibility that calls for maturity of attitude and allows no self-pity on any score. In small things as well as in great we must walk worthy of the high calling, in the sight of the Church as well as in the sight of the Lord. To this end let us stand firm and pray in the spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord."

Intensive Evangelism Program Approved By Methodists

Minneapolis, Minn.—Plans for "an intensive and extensive" program of evangelism were approved by the General Conference of The Methodist Church here.

"We believe that the greatest opportunity in the history of The Methodist Church lies immediately before us," an adopted report declared. "The United States of America faces an era of unprecedented growth. There will be a net gain of more than 3 million people in this country in

the next 20 years (more than 3 million a year).

"The Christian Church must reach these people. In addition, there are already more unchurched people in this country—nearly 70 million—than was the total population in 1890."

The denomination's board of evangelism was called upon to assist local churches in motivating their members and leading them in the evangelistic program. This program, it was said, would "result in thousands of new churches, an adequate supply of new ministers and the reaching of millions of unchurched persons for Christ and His Church."

New Russian Bible Edition Published

London—The Moscow Radio reported that a new edition of the Russian Orthodox Bible has been published, the first since 1918.

"The Moscow Patriarchate," the broadcast said, "has published a new Russian translation of the Bible with an index of parallel passages in its various books.

"Unlike the old synodal Bible, published in 1918, this edition is printed in the new spelling. Seven maps indicate the localities associated with events related in the Bible."

The station added that the New Testament and Psalms also had been published.

"This book," it said, "indicates parallel passages in the New Testament and marks the parts for daily services."

Holds 60-Year Sunday School Attendance Record

Catasauqua, Pa.—John "Pete" Edgar, a local druggist, has an unbroken Sunday School attendance record of more than 60 years.

It came to light after a story was published that George W. McDaniel, Jr., of Dallas, Tex., had attended Sunday school for 37 years without missing a Sunday.

And Mr. Edgar's entire record was established at the Presbyterian church of Catasauqua which he has been attending since the age of five.

To keep his record unblemished "Pete" had to get permission from his doctor last summer to leave a hospital bed to attend Sunday school. Permission was granted on condition that he return immediately afterward.

Chart Russians Visit

A combined Protestant and Orthodox delegation of Christian leaders from the Soviet Union will arrive in the U.S. June 2 for a ten-day visit.

In the first visit of its kind in the history of the two countries, eight Russian church leaders will be the guests of the National Council of Churches. It will be the second phase of a two-way visit set in motion last month when a deputation of U.S. churchmen visited Moscow to open East-West conversations with Russian church leaders.

The conversations will be continued in New York and other U.S. cities as the Russian group goes on tour to get acquainted with U.S. Protestantism and life.

The announcement of the return-visit was made today by Dr. Eugene Carson Blake, president of the National Council of Churches and stated clerk (administrative head) of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. Dr. Blake was chairman of the nine-member U.S. delegation which visited Moscow.

Conversations with the Russians will center on major topics first discussed last month, among them: "What are the churches of the two countries doing to promote peace? How free are the churches to fulfill their mission? The Christian Faith and modern science. Future relations between churches of the two nations." He said that four of the eight visiting Russian churchmen participated in the earlier Moscow conversations.

Leader of the Russian delegation will be Metropolitan Nicolai of Moscow, head of the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Orthodox Church. Delegation members will represent four active Christian communions in the Soviet Union—the Russian Orthodox, the Armenian Orthodox, the Evangelical Christian—Baptist and the Lutheran.

Danish Church To Consider A Third Series Of Texts

Copenhagen, Denmark — A third series of pericopes is being proposed for the Lutheran Church of Denmark so that sermon texts and scripture readings may be repeated only every third year instead of every second year as at present.

The new order of texts has been compiled by a special committee head-

ed by Bishop Halfdan Hogsbro of Nykobing under the direction of a Liturgic Committee appointed by the Danish Ministry of Ecclesiastical Affairs, according to Church News from the Northern Countries.

The draft proposal will be discussed at an extraordinary meeting of the Danish Bishops in June and, if approved, it is expected that the Danish Church will soon be using three orders of text, as in several other Lutheran Churches.

The new series of texts of sermons, it was reported, are taken from the four Gospels exclusively for historical reasons and to follow the same principle underlying the two present orders of texts.

The series of scripture readings or lessons have been selected solely from the Old Testament in order to meet complaints that far too little material from this part of the Bible has been used by the Church up to now. The present texts include only a few lessons from the Old Testament.

Missouri Synod Notes 4.1% Membership Gain

Baptized membership in The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod North and South America was 2,400 at the end of 1955. The Synod statistician, the Rev. Armin Schrock said the figure represents a 4.1 per cent gain of 86,976 persons over the previous year.

In 1945, the Synod had 1,532 baptized members in 5,311 congregations served by 3,383 pastors.

The rise represents an increase of 43% in baptized membership over the previous ten year period. Population of the United States increased 18% during the decade.

Members belong to 5,677 congregations served by 4,175 pastors.

The Joint Synod of Wisconsin has 328,969 baptized members as well as the Slovak Ev. Luth. Synod with 988, the Norwegian Synod with 371, the Nat. Ev. Luth. Church with 8,217, and the Colored Missions of the Synodical Conference belong to the Synodical Conference and are closely affiliated with the Missouri Synod. Adding them the number of baptized members are 2,481,258.

THE LIVING WORD

By Luther A. Weigle

The meaning of "persuade"

The word "persuade" now implies success; we speak of persuading a man only if our arguments and pleas prevail upon him to accept the judgment or make the decision to which we urge him. But this is not necessarily so in the King James Version of the Bible. In Acts 19:8-9 we read of Paul's "disputing and persuading" at Corinth, with the result that some "were hardened, and believed not, but spake evil of that way." In Acts 28:23 we are told that at Rome "there came many to him into his lodging; to whom he expounded and testified the kingdom of God, persuading them concerning Jesus, both out of the law of Moses, and out of the prophets, from morning till evening"; but the next verse records that some believed and some did not. The Revised Standard Version uses the terms "arguing and pleading" in the account of his work at Corinth, and it uses "trying to convince them" in the account of the day at Rome.

In *The Merchant of Venice* (III, 2, 281) Salerio describes the unyielding temper of Shylock:

"twenty merchants,

The duke himself, and the magnifico

Of greatest port, have all persuaded with him;

But none can drive him from the envious plea."

On the other hand, "persuade" is used in its full sense in such passages as Matthew 27:20, Acts 14:19 and 19:26. And "I am persuaded" is hardly strong enough in most contexts where the passive form of the Greek verb appears. The Revised Standard version of Romans 8:38-39 reads: "For I am sure that neither death, nor life . . . nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." Note also "be convinced" (Luke 17:31); "are convinced" (Luke 20:6); "fully convinced" (Romans 4:21; 14:5); "I am sure" (2 Timothy 1:5, 12); "we feel sure" (Hebrews 6:9).

In the Old Testament, the word "persuade" usually has a bad sense, being used as the equivalent of entice, mislead, or deceive. Compare 1 Kings 22:20, 21, 22 where KJ uses "persuade" for the same Hebrew verb which it translates "entice" in 2 Chronicles 18:19, 20, 21. Or compare the accounts concerning Hezekiah found in 2 Kings 18 and 19, 2 Chronicles 32, and Isaiah 36 and 37.

IF A MAN WOULD BE A CHRISTIAN

If a man would be a soldier he'd expect of course to fight;
And he couldn't be an author if he didn't try to write;
So it isn't common logic—doesn't hold a real, true ring
That a man to be a Christian doesn't have to do a thing.
If a man would be a hunter, he must go among the trees,
And he couldn't be a sailor if he wouldn't sail the seas;
How strange for any member of the church to think—that he
Can stay away from worship and not a worthy member be.

The Church

The Church is a hospital for sinners rather than a club for saints, and that as a hospital, it is there to help.

Gossip.

The vice of respectable people consist in continually gossiping about the vices of others, which makes it easy to see why Jesus preferred the company of sinners to the self-righteous.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO SYNOD

Dr. Hans C. Jersild reports to synod every year at the annual convention. This report is printed in the Yearbook. However, many people do not get the report, so we reprint a good part of the report in this article. Other items from the report are mentioned on our editorial page.

IN MEMORIAM

The past year servants of the Lord who served with faithfulness and fruitfulness in our field of labor have been called home. **The Rev. Anders Hansen**, Elk Horn, Iowa, superintendent of Salem Old People's and Invalid Homes served with distinction among us both as a pastor and later as founder and superintendent of the above named homes. He used this brother in pastoral work to bring His saving blessing to souls in a fruitful way, and in the field ofiatrics and the aged to activate a vision of service to the Lord which speaks of outstanding devotion to our Lord and Savior. **The Rev. L. H. Kjaer**, Menlo Park, California was one of our pioneer pastors. God used this servant fruitfully as he ministered in new places and proclaimed the great message of salvation with tender earnestness. We learned to know this brother as a witness with a heart of love and sincere concern for the souls of men. **The Rev. A. P. Anderson**, Reedley, California was called away after a long period of sickness. This brother had outstanding talent as a teacher of the Gospel. Many were heartened and helped by his gospel testimony. He served with earnest faithfulness to the glory of God's name and the salvation of souls. **The Rev. James C. Peterson**, Salt Lake City, Utah was one of our aggressive and zealous servants who gave himself with utter devotion to his call. He was a leader who held a number of responsible synodical posts. In his early years of service he was a leader of our youth, later editor of our Danish church paper. In parish work he excelled in serving some of our large congregations with much fruitfulness. **The Rev. H. P. Berthelsen**, Chicago, Illinois was also a pioneer pastor who pioneered for a number of years among the Norwegian brethren. In the early years of this century he transferred to our Synod together with the congregation he was then serving in Indianapolis, Indiana. His brother was a pastor with a large heart and a message of strong evangelical import. He served in the days when the native tongue of our fathers was most dominant. His place in the counsels of our church was seasoned and persuasive. **Dr. Hajime Inadomi** was called away in the midst of an important change in his work. He had moved to Tokyo, Japan and was to begin a professorship in the Lutheran Seminary. This servant and brother, a fruit of our foreign mission work in Japan, ministered with zealous devotion and earnest concern for souls. We recall him as he traveled over our land and proclaimed the cause of the Japan Mission as a witness of warm, earnest interest for his people. Although he was not, at the time of his departure, in our service, he was for a number of years until he transferred to U.L.C.

We are sincerely grateful for the services of the above named men of the Lord. They served with faithfulness and fruitfulness among us. May God bless their memory and sustain their bereaved dear ones.

We have no knowledge of any pastors' widows or wives having passed away this year. Nor has there come to our attention the departure of any laymen who have served on any of our synodical boards. We are on the other hand assured that a goodly number of very faithful members of our congregations have this past year been called to their reward. For every faithful servant and witness we are truly thankful. They constitute the strong and firm basis for our congregational as well as synodical work. May God bless their memory.

DEDICATIONS

Again this year there has been extensive activity in our congregations in the erection of churches, parish halls, and parsonages. Seven new churches will have been dedicated, as you read our 1956 Yearbook. They are: Emmaus Lutheran Church, Racine, Wisconsin; First English Lutheran Church, Poy Sippi, Wisconsin; First Lutheran Church, Blair, Nebraska; Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Racine, Wisconsin; Christ the King Lutheran Church, Harvey Park, Denver, Colorado; Nazareth Lutheran Church, Coulter, Iowa; Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Neenah, Wisconsin. These churches in some instances represent a two to three hundred thousand dollar investment. It is most fascinating to dwell on the thought that our people have prospered with the land to such an extent that they can build churches which are spacious, well-detailed, adequate, and attractive. These churches are also well provided with parish halls and Sunday School facilities. It all speaks to us in terms of the bounteous blessing of God upon our people. They have grown in early possessions and we believe have grown in spiritual insight and concern for more adequate church facilities. We know that a beautiful church home is only part of it. There is a greater building about which we must be earnestly concerned and it is the temple of the living God in which He wants each one of us to be living stones.

In addition to Church building, ten new parsonages have also been either built or bought in the following places: Harvey Park, Denver, Colorado; Harlan, Iowa; Minden, Nebraska; Audubon, Iowa (Our Saviors); Racine, Wisconsin (Emmaus); Sioux City, Iowa; Trufant, Michigan; Neenah, Wisconsin; Pewaukee, Wisconsin; St. Paul, Nebraska. We have had opportunity to see some of these homes. Again our people have responded in a big way in providing homes of modern comfort and detail for their pastors.

We are moved to sincere gratitude for the generous response of our people in providing greater and better facilities for congregational labors. May God richly bless us as we together work for the building of not only external buildings, but for that more vital building of lives in His Name, for that more crucial growth in His grace and knowledge, for that more transcendent effort of saving and inspiring souls unto things eternal.

ORDINATIONS AND TRANSFERS

Four young theological candidates will present themselves for ordination at our Convention, Sunday, June 24. They

are applying to the Ministerium for ordination. Three of these young servants are graduating from our Seminary and the fourth one, a son of one of our congregations, comes to us from another Seminary. They are: Melius Eugene Bollesen, called to be associate pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, Norwalk, California; Niels Christian Carlsen, called to serve as chaplain in the armed forces; Franklin Milton Highby, called to Emmaus Lutheran Church, McNabb, Illinois; Harry Christian Sorensen called to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Neola, Iowa. We are happy as a synod to be able to ordain men for the holy ministry. It means our ministerial manpower receives an added increase. Allow us to correct a statement in last year's Report about Ervin W. Dohmeier who graduated from our Seminary. He was reported to have been called by the American Lutheran Church and ordained by them. Events took another turn. He was called by our Fredericksburg Lutheran Church near Minden, Nebraska and was ordained by our Synod upon recommendation by the proper groups.

Two pastors are seeking admission into our ministerium by transfer from other Lutheran bodies. They are: the Rev. Douglas J. Toepel called to be associate pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Lynwood, California who will be transferred from the United Lutheran Church; and the Rev. Woodard Ching called to be associate pastor of Edina Community Lutheran Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota who will be transferred from the Evangelical Lutheran Church. They have both applied and their applications will be acted upon by our ministerium. The Synodical Church Council recommends that they be accepted.

Pray for all these brethren. May we as brother pastors and laymen do our part to sustain the young candidates who are to be ordained in their calling as well as to set before them an example of devotion and love.

ANNIVERSARIES

The following churches can celebrate or have celebrated anniversaries this year: St. Thomas Lutheran, Trufant Michigan, St. Paul's Lutheran, Neola, Iowa; are celebrating seventy-fifth anniversaries, Nazareth Lutheran, Kenmare, North Dakota; Westwood Lutheran, Kansas City, Kansas; and Daneville Lutheran, Westby, Montana are celebrating their fiftieth anniversaries. We give thanks to God for these years of labor and love for His great cause. Birthdays of this character are indeed of the greater and more blessed kind because their years have centered around the great work of the salvation of souls and the building of the Kingdom of God.

Among our brethren in the ministry we would call attention to the two servants who can this year celebrate anniversaries of their ordination. The one brother is our next oldest pastor, the Rev. N. Bentsen. He is going on his 90th birthday. He celebrates this year his 60th anniversary as an ordained servant. God has given this laborer a long day. He has served with faithfulness and zeal in several congregations. A goodly number of souls are grateful to God for the testimony and service of this brother. The other fellow-laborer is the Rev. E. R. Andersen who can celebrate the 50th anniversary of his ministry. This brother is now serving his fiftieth year in full time ministration. At present he is Lutheran Welfare Chaplain. There is indeed a keen satisfaction in being able to serve that long period of years in full time pastoral service. For the service of God's servant centers around an eternity of souls. It ministers in the deepest sense to the lives of men. This brother has with zealous faithfulness and earnest devotion served our church as pastor, synodical official and now as chaplain. We are sincerely grateful to God for the services of these two brethren. May God bless them and keep them.

DANA COLLEGE AND TRINITY SEMINARY

A church cannot successfully exist without colleges and seminaries. We need the trained ministry and Christian leadership which those institutions can provide. They therefore fill a vital and needful place. We urge upon our people to rally around them with prayer, with love, and with your earthly means.

The past year has again witnessed a larger enrollment in our College and a substantial enrollment in our Seminary. Faithful and devoted work has been performed in both institutions. On behalf of the Synod we express our sincere gratitude for the past year both to the administrative staff, faculties, and our Boards of Trustees and Education.

There has been a number of things connected with the past year to which we would like to add our comments. First of all our Seminary staff has been very much concerned about the future of our Seminary. Let us assure our readers that both the school Boards and the Church Council have been deeply concerned about it. In that interest a recommendation was adopted at the February meeting of the Board of Trustees asking that a place be set aside for our Seminary where it geographically could serve the new Church. In the recommendation the Pacific Northwest was suggested. That area has a very large following of the four churches, a good deal larger than in the Pacific Southwest. It was felt that this point would constitute a proper location because it is properly spaced in relation to the other Seminaries. In other words in view of the coming merger a location was spotted for the Seminary where it could definitely serve the new Church. In that interest of that recommendation the U.E.L.C. Joint Union Committee was requested to seek the reaction of the U.E.L.C. Union Committee. That reaction was sought at the May meeting and we copy from the minutes of that meeting the following: "In response to the question of relocating Trinity Seminary at a new site, it was the sense of the U.E.L.C. Committee deliberations that re-locating of the Seminary seems inadvisable."

There are several factors involved in such a relocation which should be noted. First it is difficult for a U.E.L.C. Committee to make any commitments of that character on behalf of the entire new Church and in this case in the interest of the smallest body which has only three congregations in the Pacific Northwest. Next the other bodies would in effect through their Joint Union Committee be committing themselves even before merger was effected to a capital outlay for the erection of a Seminary to be occupied by the smallest body in order that it might serve the youth not principally of our U.E.L.C. but of the other bodies. Let us note again that this entire matter is merely an effort to obtain reaction. Our Boards and U.E.L.C. Joint Union Committee had no mandate from the convention as to this question.

We are sure however in the light of the actual meeting that a relocation of our Seminary should be to a site within the new Church which is reasonably spaced from other seminaries. Good stewardship would require that we do so. We are of the opinion that such a relocation could be much more normally and naturally effected after the new Church is organized. In such a case it would be proper that our Seminary which will be transferred to the new Church should have a first consideration.

A second matter which asks for comment is the withdrawal of Dr. R. E. Morton, president of College and Seminary. His term expires this year. Our regular procedure is to have the Board of Trustees recommend that he

ominated for another term and the Church Council then joins with such a recommendation to make it a joint nomination to the Convention. Dr. Morton requested that his name not be placed in nomination, at our coming Convention. He has served us for twelve years. During that time our new Administration and Library building has been erected. Progress has been made in improving the property, in organizing the work, in raising standards, and in moving steadily toward eventual accreditation. In the last named matter Dr. Morton, together with his staff, has done an aggressive and intensive work. We have reasonable hope that upon the second application weaknesses will have been strengthened and accreditation be secured. We are very grateful to Dr. Morton for his faithful and diligent labors as the executive officer of our institutions for these past years.

CONGREGATIONAL, SYNODICAL AND DISTRICT RECEIPTS

Bequests:

Anna B. Petersen estate, Waupaca, Wis.....\$ 4,318.24
Christen Nielsen estate, Irene, S. Dak. 3,551.74

Special gifts:

Anonymous gift to Church Extension Fund 5,694.18
Anonymous gift to Seminary Student Fund 9,000.00

\$22,564.16

Congregational Receipts:

Local Church Current\$ 1,155,651.00
Local Church Extra 881,689.00

Total Local Income \$2,124,696.00

Other Synodical Income:

Christian Approach to the Jewish People\$ 648.22
L.N.A. Nat'l. Lutheran Council, S.S.C. 39,365.98
Forward With Christ 136,679.57
China Mission 136.14
From Lovgren Estate 1482.70
District Income 42,342.28

\$281,291.89

2,761,688.71

Counted Twice 4,318.24

Net Total\$2,757,370.47

A NEW HOME FOR TRINITY SEMINARY

(Continued from page 4)

Plains territory. It has been slow in coming, but the plans were made some years ago. This Great Plains territory where our new church will also have considerable strength will need a seminary. The existing seminaries are large enough as institutions, though even they have not filled the need for pastors. The Methodist Church, meeting in Minneapolis this month, decided to open two new seminaries . . . one for the Great Plains territory. For their purpose they chose Kansas City. For the churches of the merger Lincoln would be close to the center of strength and geographically well located. If we want to grow with that territory we need to train men in that territory, men who love and know it. This is not a time to retrench, but this is a time to hold and to build.

Consequently we have come to the considered conclusion that if we want to certify Trinity Seminary to the new church we should relocate in Lincoln, Nebraska. The future calls for our branch of the Lutheran Church to keep a seminary in this territory.

Can It Be Done?

There is, as we see it, only one really difficult question involved. It is, can we finance it? We have a tentative proposal to lease a former fraternity building which we are told has great possibilities for this purpose. It would not require a capital investment at this time. More information must be gathered for an adequate presentation and this will be forthcoming. We ought to relocate in Lincoln for the future. Let us see if we can do it.

EDITORIALS AND COMMENTS

(Continued from page 3)

shall take up the task of working as we have always done, till the date of the actual union.

For the individual congregations life will go on as usual. They have their work of preaching the gospel and administering the sacraments. They will also continue to support the synod as they have done in the past. The great budget raised last year speaks well for the future. It is a virile little group that comes into the new church.

The problems of the College and the Seminary will

seem large, and yet by the grace of God and sanctified common sense, we shall settle them. The other problems before us may be classed as routine. We do need the Spirit of God and the love of the Kingdom. We need it in such a measure that we do not with our little selves and our little minds get between Him and His great cause.

In 1948 our synod boldly proposed to the other bodies, that the time of merging some of the Lutheran churches in America had come. This year we shall cast a decisive vote in favor of that proposal. May God bless us as we do so.

THE LUTHER LEAGUE

John W. Nielsen, Editor

What is An Ambassador for Christ?

By Bonnie Hagedorn

An ambassador is a messenger or agent who has a **special mission**. Our U. S. Government has ambassadors in foreign countries to keep our government in a good relationship with those countries. And those countries in turn send their ambassadors to Washington, D. C. to keep a spirit of good will between the two nations.

In II Cor. 5:20, we read that Jesus Christ has called us to be ambassadors for Him. This is the only means God has for bringing others who do not know Jesus as their Savior to Him — that is by our being ambassadors or agents who have a **SPECIAL MESSAGE**.

This **SPECIAL MESSAGE** that we have to bring the world through our being ambassadors is the story of God's wonderful love. It is the story of how we came to Christ. It is the story of a **NEW CREATION**, which all Christians have experienced. The Story can be told and retold, but it never grows old. It is the **STORY OF THE GOSPEL**. We are first shown what miserable sinners we are, and we realize that there is nothing we can do to come even **one step** closer to God, by doing good works or anything of the like. Then after we have seen what lost creatures we are, we see God in His perfect righteousness, and we know for sure that we are completely doomed.

But, the Story does not end here, and thanks to God that it doesn't! For if it did, the Story would be incomplete and our lives would be hopeless. After we have seen our sinfulness compared against God's righteousness, we see God's love in the form of Jesus Christ, and in Him only do we have salvation through His death on the cross and His Resurrection on Easter morning. It is a simple story, isn't it? So simple that even the smallest child can understand it.

There is another fulfillment to the Story which comes later. For if the Story ended here it would be a pretty **sad** story. When we come to Christ and ask for the forgiveness of our sins, a wonderful **TRANSFORMATION** takes place in our life. We become a **NEW CREATURE**. There is an essential and vital change in our life. In fact, it is a very radical change. All the old sinful purposes of life are gone. The old pride and conceit leave with the old standards of judgement. We no longer estimate anybody by a standard of **outward** appearances. Our old human point of view is gone. We see other people

with eyes of love — love which God streams into our life. We see Christ in a new way, too. It is not the knowledge of Christ's birth and death and of Christ's conduct and teachings that makes us a **new creature** — BUT — it is the coming of a **VITAL RELATIONSHIP** between us and Christ.

This **new creation** is **IDEAL** as well as real. Of course we take on a new type of life, but our sinful nature is still within us. As a result, we must daily go to God in prayer and ask Him to forgive our sins. Then it is that the love of Christ is poured into our hearts and only by living in constant communion with God can we attain true Christian discipleship. Living a completely transformed life is impossible on this earth, but someday when we bow before the throne of God, the full and perfect transformation will take place.

There is something else which enters in here, and cannot be emphasized enough, that is that all these wonderful gifts of the **FORGIVENESS OF OUR SINS** and the **FELLOWSHIP IN THE LOVE OF CHRIST** are truly and purely the **GIFTS OF GOD**. We have done and can do nothing to earn these gifts or to be worthy of them. We cannot understand why God should love us so much, but we must only **BELIEVE** it and we have life in His name.

After this **TRANSFORMATION** in our life has taken place and we become **NEW CREATURES**, we are commissioned by God to be **ambassadors**. Everyone, who has known the forgiveness of his sins and who now lives a life which is controlled by the **LOVE OF CHRIST**, will heed this command of God. It is a **SACRED AND HOLY COMMAND**, and because God's Love has meant so much to us we will want to tell this wonderful story to others who haven't accepted it.

The ambassador who goes from our government to another nation takes a message, usually in the form of important papers which he carries in a briefcase. We as ambassadors of Christ, carry a message, too — but not always in a briefcase. The Message we have to tell is first told by the way we live our life as a Christian — the way we talk — the attitudes we have. The attitude of a Christian is controlled by the **LOVE OF CHRIST**, he is a happy and sincere person. He refrains from being a "griper" or taking the negative attitude. So we see that the daily life of a Christian or an **AMBASSADOR** is truly a life of **TRANSFORMATION** and the new creation shines forth more brightly than ever before.

The Call from God to be an Ambassador for Christ is not only an obligation on our part, but a **WAY OF**

LIFE. It is a result of the NEW CREATION. It is the result of being TRANSFORMED. It is the fulfillment of the wonderful story of salvation. It is the means and channel through which God makes His appeal to those who are lost. And what Christian — what Christian in all the world — can dare to sit idly by when God is commanding him to go forth and be an ambassador for Christ? It is not just the "come and listen" type of command, but there is a "GO AND TELL" to it, too. So whether you are Luther Leaguer, a mom or a dad, or just someone's little brother or sister, God has called YOU to be an AMBASSADOR FOR CHRIST. And friends, this is a HOLY calling and we ought not hesitate to answer — "Here am I, Lord, send me. Use me where Thou would choose to use me — and I will willingly follow Thee — that maybe in my own small way, I could be a channel through which someone else might see Thee and might come to know Thee as his personal Savior!"

(Bonnie Hagedorn who delivered this meditation on Youth Sunday is a leaguer from Royal, Iowa.—J.W.N.)

People and Places

Atlantic, Iowa:

During the winter the Luther League of St. Paul's Lutheran Church holds two meetings a month. One meeting is a supper fellowship; the other is a program with refreshments and games afterwards.

On March 22 Judge Kent Martin gave an interesting talk on juvenile delinquency after which there was a question period. At this meeting the parliamentary procedure team of the local F.F.A. chapter gave its demonstration. The team consists of Ted Stenberg, Charles Ruglsang, Gerald Schwartz, Larry Kay, and Gary Giese.

Detroit, Michigan:

The Luther League of Northwest Trinity Lutheran Church is sponsoring a refugee family.

Minnesota District:

Eighty-nine leaguers from the Minnesota District gathered at Luck, Wisconsin for their fortieth annual convention. Pastor Paul Keller of Edina and Margo Anderson of Ellendale were elected vice-president and secretary respectively. The convention voted to increase its synodical general fund goal by \$100.00.

CHRIST IN VOCATIONS

The Challenge of Building

By Phil Larsen

The word "building," or the phrase "to build," is used to describe a number of different things. You have, I am sure, heard or read such expressions as, "building a reputation," or "building enthusiasm." The reference in these cases is to abstract things; however, the word "building" is also used appropriately with reference to tangible objects, whether it be building a table, building a house, or perhaps, building a church. Building, as used in this last sense, is what we shall be concerned with **here**.

The list of vocations from which young people may choose their life work no doubt runs the alphabet from A to Z. Some are relatively new, such as science research, school teaching, medicine, and law. But perhaps only farming, or tilling the soil, dates back as far as does this vocation of building. For when God first created man, man realized that one of his basic needs was shelter, and as a result set about building a crude hut in which to house himself and his family. The Bible relates many feats of building which man undertook — the first major undertaking being the unsuccessful attempt to build a tower reaching up to heaven, and of course there is the account of the many hard years of sweat and toil that went into the building of Solomon's temple. And, later on, in the city of Nazareth, we know that Joseph operated his own carpentry shop, and no doubt the boy Jesus whiled away many an hour in this place learning a few "tricks of the trade." So you can see that the building vocation is rich in its history and certainly need not be shunned on that account.

Today building has become highly mechanized and offers contacts with a wide variety of people, ranging from the common laborer to the specialized engineer, from the churchd to the unchurched. Opportunities to witness for Christ are unlimited and can be done in many different ways — the language one uses, the stories one acknowledges either by laughing or repeating, and in a more general way, the over-all conduct of one's behavior, both at work and away.

Since one who is in the occupation of building is working with something so very tangible and concrete, the tendency seems to be to disregard Christ and to consider oneself as master of his own fate, or captain of his own soul. It is this very thing that those who enter the building vocation must guard against particularly. We must remember that God Himself was the Master Builder of all time when He created man and a world in which man can live and acknowledge Him in the vocation in which he is most talented.

(Phil Larsen is a building contractor in Blair, Nebraska.—J.W.N.)

BY THE FIRESIDE

SERVING

The sweetest lives are those to duty wed,
Whose deeds, both great and small,
Are close-knit strands of unbroken thread,
Where love ennobles all.
The world may sound no trumpets, ring no bells;
The book of life the shining record tells.

Thy love shall chant its own beatitudes
After its own life working. A child's kiss
Set on thy sighing lips shall make thee glad.
A sick man helped by thee shall make thee strong.
Thou shalt be served thyself by every sense
Of service which thou renderest.

—Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

BEATITUDES FOR MARRIED COUPLES

Blessed are the husband and wife
who continue to be affectionate, considerate and loving after the wedding bells have ceased ringing.

Blessed are the husband and wife
who are as polite and courteous to one another as they are to their friends.

Blessed are they who have a sense
of humor, for this attribute will be a handy shock absorber.

Blessed are the married couples who
abstain from alcoholic beverages.

Blessed are they who love their
mates more than any other person in the world, and who joyfully fulfill their marriage vow of a lifetime of fidelity and mutual helpfulness to each other.

Blessed are they who remember to
thank God for their food before they partake of it, and who set aside some time each day for the reading of the Bible and prayer.

Blessed are they who attain parent-
hood, for children are a heritage of the Lord.

Blessed are those mates who never
speak loudly to each other and who make their home a place "where seldom is heard a discouraging word."

Blessed are the husband and wife
who faithfully attend the worship service of the church for the advancement of Christ's Kingdom.

Blessed are the husband and wife
who can work out their problems of adjustment without interference from relatives.

Blessed is the couple who have a
complete understanding about financial matters and who have worked out perfect partnership with all the money under control of both.

Blessed are the husband and wife
who humbly dedicate their lives and their home to Christ and practice the teachings of Christ in their home by being unselfish, loyal and loving.

—The Standard

THY LIGHT

Thou, who didst come to bring
On Thy redeeming wing
Healing and sight,
Health to the sick in mind,
Sight to the inly blind,
O now to all mankind
Let there be light!

Spirit of truth and love,
Life-giving, holy Dove,
Speed forth Thy flight;
Move o'er the waters' face,
Bearing the lamp of grace,
And in earth's darkest place
Let there be light!

—The War Cry

COURAGE

By Laura Cramp

The hill of tomorrow, how endless it
seems,

Its summit is veiled from our sight;
The storm clouds that hover give
promise of rain,

The pathway is lost in the night.

The hill of today, how easy to climb,
The storm but a life-giving shower;
The summit, attained as the shadows
grow long,

Breathes the peace of the sunset
hour.

And thus, to our vision, the hilltop
ahead

Is hidden in clouds far away;
But the hill of tomorrow we ne-
have reached,
Ere we climb, 'tis the hill of to-
—Epworth Her

HOT DOG DUEL

Prince Otto Von Bismarck,
great German statesman of the 19th
century, once became so incensed
the criticism of a professor that
challenged him to a duel. As ch-
llenger, he had to leave the cho-
of weapons to his opponent.

When Bismarck's seconds pre-
ed themselves to learn the choice
weapons, they returned lugging a p-
of sausages.

The professor said in effect, "C-
sausage is perfectly safe to eat. T-
other has been loaded with a dead-
amount of trichinae which will cau-
a slow and lingering death, or
least, long invalidism.

"If he will eat one, I will eat
other. He may have his choice
sausages."

Bismarck was no imbecile. A m-
might die with some sort of hor-
on a duelling field, but never by e-
ing a poisoned hot dog. He sent
answer: "His highness has destroy-
the sausages and asks that you
his guest at dinner this evening. Af-
due consideration he feels he m-
have been slightly in error. He l-
believes an agreement can be reach-

What a pity the duel-minded fi-
tions in nations, in capital and
bor, in religions, and in races ca-
be confronted with the same choice

—KVP Philosph

HANDY LITTLE GADGET

A little old lady in Green Bay, W-
consin, startled the accounts rece-
able clerk at the electric compan-
office when she asked to have a m-
jumper installed at her house.

"A meter jumper? What do y-
know about meter jumpers?" queri-
the clerk, who knew well enou-
what the illegal meter jumper was
a device which allows the elect-
current to bypass the meter box.

"Well I know they must be a wo-
derful invention," the woman repli-
timidly. "My neighbor has one a-
he says it cuts his electric bill do-
to almost nothing." —Wall Street

A man's Sunday self and his wee-
day self are like two halves of
round-trip ticket; not good if detach-

NEWS AND NOTES

(Continued from page 2)



Mrs. Peder Hansen's 90th Birthday Celebration

Trinity Lutheran Church at Kenmare, N. Dak., Silas Larsen, Pastor, was the scene of the celebration of Mrs. Peder Hansen's 90th birthday on April 29, 1956. Mrs. Hansen is living with her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Lund, at Sidney, Montana. Kenmare was her home for many years. Upon invitation from her children and grandchildren around Kenmare, a family reunion was held there. All her living children and in-laws were present except one. They came from Chicago, Pastor and Mrs. Fred C. M. Hansen; from Montana, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Lund; from Canada, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Hansen; from Nebraska, Mr. and Mrs. Marius Hansen; from Wisconsin, Pastor and Mrs. Niels B. Hansen; and grandchildren from many places, such as Wisconsin, N. Dak., Canada, Colorado, and Iowa.

The family now numbers; Mother Hansen, six surviving children, eight in-laws, 39 grandchildren, and 74 great-grandchildren—128 in all. Not all were present at the celebration.

The celebration began with the Sunday morning service at the Trinity church, where Pastor Larsen served at the Altar and Pastor Fred C. M. Hansen preached the sermon. Holy Communion was also celebrated. Pastor Niels B. Hansen assisted Pastor Larsen. All the confirmed guests attended communion.

The family of 74 had a fellowship dinner in the church parlors at noon. A special program was arranged in the afternoon. Here many talks were given by Pastors Larsen and Petrusson and the Hansen sons, and a number of others commending the lives of both Mr. and Mrs. Peder Hansen for the many blessings received

through the services of these Christian people. Telegrams and letters received for the occasion revealed the extensiveness of the influence for good through the lives of the Hansens.

Grandchildren sang many songs. One chorus consisted of 17 great-grandchildren. This group sang a song composed by their "uncle Fred." There was more talent in this third and fourth generation, than had been realized.

The Ladies Aid invited all the family and friends into the church parlors for refreshments following the program. Here was occasion to meet distant relatives and friends, who had not met for many years. The day was closed by a gathering of the closest relatives at the old farm home, where a granddaughter and her husband now live.

Mrs. Hansen, though 90 years old, was able to endure the entire day's activities. Many words of gratitude came from relatives and friends for the blessings they had received through Mr. and Mrs. Peder Hansen. Letters and cards were received in great numbers. Many now old people remembered the kindness shown them in the days of their youth. Mrs. Hansen remarked: "The words of Scripture have been fulfilled today: 'Cast thy bread upon the waters; for thou shalt find it after many days.'"

This word of Scripture was fulfilled from Prov. 31, 28: "Her children shall rise up and call her blessed." One of the grandchildren called attention to the many that have gone to all parts of the land with blessings received and imparted to others because they have been in contact with the Hansen home.

Mrs. Hansen is a Christian mother and grandmother. She will never know how far-reaching her kindness has gone in this world, until she hears the Master's words: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant. Thou hast been faithful over a few things. I will set thee over many things; enter thou into the joy of the Lord." Matt. 25, 21.

The family would like to express its gratitude to all who had any part in making the day, April 29th, a blessed one for the Hansen family. Thanks to all who came, to all who wrote letters and cards, to those that served and especially to Pastors Larsen and Petrusson for kind words spoken, and to the Ladies Aid for their part. May God bless you all.

Commencement at Trinity and Dana

Blair, Nebraska. Commencement exercises were held at Dana College and Trinity Seminary on Sunday, May 27, for 42 college and four seminary seniors. The address was given by Dr.

F. H. Gorman, Dean, College of Education, University of Omaha, and President R. E. Morton conferred the bachelor's degree on the candidates. Mark Thomsen of Denmark, Wisconsin, gave the seminary valedictory address, and Barbara Petersen of Farmington, Minnesota, represented the college class.

Baccalaureate services were held the same day, at 11 a.m., in the beautiful new First Lutheran Church. Rev. J. H. Thomsen, Denmark, Wisconsin, delivered the sermon.

Following the commencement activities in the auditorium, the traditional and delightful "kaffebord" on the middle campus closed the years of work for the seniors. "Good bye, best of luck," "Write me," "See you in the fall" mingled with the greetings of students and parents and alumni.

CONVENTION EQUALIZATION RULES FOR PASTORS

The following equalization rules were adopted by the Ministerium of our Synod on June 23, 1949:

FIRST: That the basic rule be retained, that traveling expenses shall be calculated on the basis of the lowest clergy fare for each mile travelled **FOR WHICH FARE IS PAID.**

SECOND: That the present rule of one cent per mile for traveling by car be changed to two cents per mile, shortest route, providing that it shall not exceed clergy fare as set forth in the paragraph above.

THIRD: That the present rule that car passengers be allowed one cent per mile be dropped, and that the two cents per mile for traveling by car apply in this case also.

FOURTH: Since the purpose of our plan of equalization is to keep the convention expenses of all pastors as low as possible, and especially to make the attendance of pastors from outlying districts possible, we should realize that it is our duty to the brethren to keep the expenses as low as possible.

FIFTH: That the points be made effective as our rules for this year also.

Deadline for participation Thursday of Convention 6:30 P.M.

All pastors eligible to share each year.

Pastors from outlying districts **no longer restricted.**

Lawrence Siersbeck

Secretary of the Ministerium

Note: When conventions are held in Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin or Eastern Nebraska, the equalization rate is low. In Audubon, Iowa, in 1954, it was \$18.05. In Atlantic, Iowa, 1953, it was \$21.64. In 1952, in Albert Lea, it was \$23.40.

L.S.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

	Total Received	Chil- dren's Homes	School General Fund	Home Mission	Indian Mission	Utah Mission	Pen- sion Fund
Total Synodical Budget \$275,202.00.		23220.00	87030.00	29940.00	61546.00	7800.00	1542.00
Budgets:							
Dannebrog, Nebr., Pastor and Mrs. Viggo J. Petersen in memory of Pastor H. P. Berthelsen	10.00						10.00
Norwalk, Calif., Trinity Luth. Church	334.69		100.00	34.69	100.00		100.00
Oakland, Calif., John Hansen in memory of his wife	10.00		10.00				
Ord, Nebr., Rev. and Mrs. Pastor C. Jeppesen in memory of Pastor H. P. Berthelsen	2.00				2.00		
Morgan, Minn., Bethany Luth. Church	75.00		25.00		25.00		25.00
Kansas City, Kan., Westwood Luth. Church	131.20		50.00	31.20	25.00		25.00
Denver, Colo., Mrs. Helena M. Ludvigsen \$5 in memory of Rev. S. S. Nielsen, \$5 in memory of Rev. A. P. Andersen, \$5 in memory of Rev. James C. Peterson \$5, \$10 in memory of Rev. H. P. Berthelsen and Rev. Andrew Nielsen (\$5 for each)	25.00		5.00	5.00			5.00
Oconto, Wis., Emmanuel Luth. Church	50.00		20.00		15.00		15.00
Owatonna, Minn., Our Savior's Ladies Aid in memory of Hans Andreassen	2.00				2.00		
Minneapolis, Minn., Mr. and Mrs. Alvin Hansen in memory of Uncle Carl Jensen of Evan, Minn.	50.00				50.00		
Curtis, Nebr., Ebenezer Luth. Church	110.00		50.00		30.00		30.00
Cushing, Wis., Loyal Workers \$2 in memory of John Lindgren, Lindstrom, Minn., and \$2 in memory of Alec H. Swanson, Luck, Wis.	4.00				4.00		
Chicago, Ill., M. Rolsted in memory of Pastor H. P. Berthelsen	5.00						5.00
Chicago, Ill., Golgotha W.M.S. for Life Memberships for Mrs. Olga Jensen and Mrs. Agnes Hjortsvang	13.50		13.50				
TOTAL	822.39	273.50	70.89	253.00	5.00	220.00	

SPECIAL MISSIONS

	Total (Where Most Received)	Foreign Missions Needed	South Amer. Mission	Japan Mission	Santal Mission	Sudan Mission	Jewish Mission	1956 Luth. World Action Mission
Budgets:		16000.00	20227.00	10000.00	15000.00			43399.00
Please note: The amount for the South American Mission, the Japan Mission, the Santal Mission, the Sudan Mission and the Lutheran World Action were received since Jan. 1, '56	33812.49	6249.78	7762.34	4143.30	6641.66			9015.41
Norwalk, Calif., Trinity Luth. Church	51.89							51.89
Kenmare, N. Dak., A. Stall	50.00	50.00						50.00
Morgan, Minn., Bethany Luth. Church	50.00							50.00
Denver, Colo., Mrs. Helena M. Ludvigsen	15.00					15.00		
Denver, Colo., Mrs. Helena M. Ludvigsen in memory of Rev. Inadomi and in appreciation of Dr. J. M. T. Winther and Dr. J. P. Nielsen	10.00		10.00					
Kansas City, Kan., Westwood Luth. S. S.	34.32							34.32
Jacksonville, Ia., Bethlehem Luth. S. S.	18.82		18.82					
Curtis, Nebr., Ebenezer Luth. Church	22.50							22.50
Oregon, Wis., St. John's Luth. S. S. for partial scholarship of student at Bible Institute	19.45		19.45					
Dana College, Luth. Student Association for Margaret Nissen's hospital	50.00					50.00		
Kenmare, N. D., Trinity Luth. Church, an offering	83.00							83.00
Albert Lea, Minn., Junior Mission Society	5.00		5.00					
Chicago, Ill., Golgotha W.M.S. for Tadashi Hara, Japan, \$25, and for Barka Murmu of the Santal Mission \$14	39.00		25.00	14.00				
The Wisconsin District for salary of Helen Margaret Jacobsen in the Sudan Mission	140.00					140.00		
Waupaca, Wis., Trinity Luth. Ladies Aid, Life Membership for Mrs. Oscar Christensen	6.75		6.75					
Hussar, Alberta, Canada, Mrs. Leda Jensen in memory of Mrs. Ragnhild Jensen, Gary, Indiana	5.00		5.00					
Standard, Alberta, Canada, from a donor at a Mission Evening for Miss M. Nissen's work in Sudan, Africa	20.00					20.00		
Westbrook, Me., from "Tabitha" of Trinity Luth. Church	38.00		19.00	19.00				
Boston, Mass., Bethany Ladies Aid of Bethany Church	20.00		10.00	10.00				
TOTAL	34491.22	50.00	6327.05	7833.09	4157.30	6866.66		9257.12

Received with thanks.

Blairstown, Nebr., May 19th, 1956.

H. J. Hansen, Treas.

BOOK REVIEWS

Christ and His Church

By Anders Nygren, translated by Alan Carlsten, Westminster Press, 125 pages, \$2.50.

A book by Nygren needs no special comment. The subject is of special interest these days when the nature of the church is being much discussed, also because of the ecumenical interest since Evanston. The book is a series of lectures delivered at Toronto at Knox College in 1954. The translation is well done. The first part and the largest treats Christ, and then the author discusses the Church. But he would have us know that the one is never without the other. This is what makes the book so very timely and valuable.—J.M.J.

Chapel Time

By Gerhard E. Frost and Gerhard I. Belgum, Augsburg Publ. House, 149 pages, \$1.75.

Here are 26 chapel talks given at Luther College, Decorah, Iowa. They are short and very thought-provoking. Pastors will find them stimulating in their sermon making both because of their title and their content.—J.M.J.

On the Nature of Man

An essay in Primitive Philosophy, by Dagobert D. Runes, Philosophical Library, 105 pages, \$3.00.

If you want to read a thought-provoking book, this is

one. The author is unique in his quest for man and his struggle. It abounds in interesting sentences. He tries to describe man as he has developed and what he is today. "Man, little two-legged man" is a strange creature, when you begin to look at him. The last part of the book is called Evening Thoughts. Here we found one sentence which is typical of the book: "Thinking is a luxury of the mind; most people stick to the necessities." This should make you interested in the book.—J.M.J.

The Virgin Mary

By Giovanni Miegge, translated by Waldo Smith, Westminster Press, 195 pages, \$3.50.

This book is a most worthwhile volume on a subject that has come so much to the fore of late, because of the Roman Catholic proclamation of the assumption of Mary. The author is professor of church history of the Waldensian Faculty at Rome. He states the problem, and then he has eight chapters as follows: Mary in the Gospel; The Eternal Virgin; The Mother of God; Queen in Heaven; The Assumption; The Immaculate; The Compassionate Mother; The Co-Redemptress. Also has a concluding chapter on Mary in Dogma and Devotion. Any one who is interested in this subject will find this book most valuable. It is a very scholarly and Biblical treatment of the subject.—J.M.J.

BOOK REVIEWS

...ther, **Young Man of God**

...Lois Gahl, Augustana Press, 91
...ages, paper binding,

The life of Luther can be told
...er and over again, and it is al-
...ays interesting. The value of this
...le book is the fact that Luther's
...uth is told in a story form that
...ll appeal to all, high school stu-
...ents as well as ordinary readers,
...ithout too much theological knowl-
...ge.

...Cyril of Jerusalem and Nemesis
...Emnesia

...Hited by Eilliam Telfer, The West-
...inister Press, 466 pages, \$5.00.

When you take this book into
...ur hand you think that it will
...t prove very interesting, but you
...el like reading it through when
...u first get started. The first part,
...2 pages, contains the life and
...mes of Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem,
...d the lectures he gave to his cate-
...umens. These lectures will in-

terest every pastor who instructs
adult classes. He will wonder at
the content of the lectures, and
what was expected of the Chris-
tians. It has many fine illustrations
as he tries to impress the truth on
his hearers. Cyril lived in the
fourth century A.D.

The last part of the book is
Nemsius' Nature of Man, This writ-
er and bishop lived in both the
fourth and fifth century. He was
baptized 390. He is a Christian ap-
ologist steeped in classical Greek
literature. His book has 44 chap-
ters about man, the way a medi-
cal doctor of the times describes
man. When he has described man
and the functions of his body he
goes into the soul of man and dis-
cusses such subjects as anger, fear,
choice, destiny and providence. It
makes very interesting reading.
You wonder at the knowledge these
men had. We have not made as
much progress as we think we have
the past 1500 years.—J.M.J.

**Living
Benefits
for Lutherans
through
Life Insurance**

**Lutheran
Brotherhood**

mail coupon below

LUTHERAN BROTHERHOOD
701 Second Ave. So., Minneapolis, Minn.

Please send me information on how I
can participate in LB's *Living Benefits*.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____

**GUYER AND HANSEN
LOANS
INSURANCE — REAL ESTATE**

Blair, Nebraska

Successor to N. T. Lund Co.

Lyle Guyer P. V. Hansen

ANNOUNCEMENT

The 60th Annual Convention of the
United Evangelical Lutheran Church will
be held at Nazareth Lutheran Church, Ce-
dar Falls, Iowa, June 19—24 beginning
with the opening services Tuesday, June 19
at 8:00 P.M. Our Convention theme is
"Oneness in Jesus Christ." All congrega-
tions are urged to send delegates, one dele-
gate for each fifty members, twenty-one
years and over, or major fraction thereof.
Delegates will please have credential blanks
filled out, bring to the Convention, and
give to the Credentials Committee. All

matters which require convention action
should be in the hands of the Church
Council by June 1st. The most important
matter to come before our Convention is
our vote on the Joint Union Committee Re-
port of 1956, copies of which have been
sent to all pastors and presidents of our
congregations. We urge all, both pastors
and congregations, to give prayerful con-
sideration to those documents. See below
for further information from the host con-
gregation. May God pour out His rich
blessing upon our 60th Convention. Pray
for our Convention.

Hans C. Jersild, President
Lawrence Siersbeck, Secretary

CONVENTION NOTICE

Nazareth Lutheran Church, Cedar
Falls, Iowa extends to all pastors, dele-
gates and guests a cordial invitation
to attend the 60th Annual Convention
of the United Evangelical Lutheran
Church to be held June 19-24th.

Lodging will be furnished in private
homes for all who register by June
15th. For those who prefer to arrange
for commercial accommodations, our
church has motels and a hotel. Details
and rates will be sent upon request.

Address all reservations and inquir-
ies to Mrs. Vernon Olsen, 909 State
Street, Cedar Falls, Iowa, giving full
details as to date of arrival, length of
stay, number in party and whether or
not you will have your own car.

Transportation will be furnished
from railroad stations, bus depots or
airport. Anyone traveling by air should
make their destination Waterloo, Iowa.
NAZARETH LUTHERAN CHURCH
HOMER LARSEN, PASTOR
JAMES HANSEN, Chairman of the
Convention Committee

REGISTRATION

**60th ANNUAL U.E.L.C. CONVENTION
NAZARETH LUTHERAN CHURCH
CEDAR FALLS, IOWA**

Name

Address

Couple..... Man..... Woman..... Name of children.....

..... Age of children.....

Will arrive (Date)

I desire transportation to Convention Headquarters from the bus.....
train..... or air.....

I desire lodging in private home

I desire motel reservations for Tues..... Wed..... Thurs..... Fri.....
Sat..... Sun.....

I will take care of my own lodging

I am a pastor..... delegate..... guest.....

Church I represent

Phone No.: Convention Headquarters, Colfax 6-5969.

Please fill out this blank and send to:

Mrs. Vernon Olsen, 909 State St., Cedar Falls, Iowa

V.B.S. HELPS

FOR BIGGER ATTENDANCE—A SMOOTH RUNNING PROGRAM
NEW V.B.S. PUBLICITY AND ACCESSORY ITEMS



BANNER

Big water-repellent banner, 72" long—21" wide, for church display. Eyelets for easy mounting on posts or wall. Black and orange. \$3.95. No. 27T5613.

POSTER

Excellent window display. 18 x 22 in. Orange and black. \$10 each. No. 27T5610.

POSTCARD

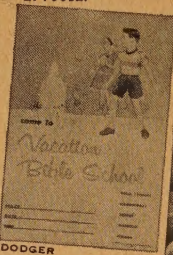
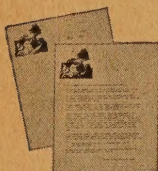
Full-color design, with space for date, time and place. Standard postcard size. 100, \$1.00. No. 27T5611.

DOORKNOB HANGER

Reaches every home in the neighborhood. Black and brilliant orange, 5½ x 8 in. 100, \$.95. No. 27T5619.

DODGER

Also black and orange, with matching design. 5½ x 8¾ in. 100, \$.70. No. 27T5612.



LETTERHEAD

Full-color. For personal invitation to members and friends. 8½ x 11 in. With message, No. 84T1064. Blank, No. 84T1063. 100, \$1.75; 1,000, \$12.00.

BUTTONS

Enrollment button for child's dress or shirt, in full color. One inch in diameter. Dozen, \$.50. General wording—No. 28T5616. Lutheran wording—No. 28T5615.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

Cost-defraying envelope with full-color design. 3 x 4¾ in. 100, \$.85, No. 86T1018. 1,000, \$6.00, No. 86T1018.

BULLETINS

Full-color V. B. S. design on front cover; inside blank for mimeographing. Folded size, 5½ x 8½. 100, \$1.75; 1,000, \$12.00. No. 84T1062.

WORKER'S CERTIFICATE

Full-color parchment certificate, for presentation to teachers. French fold. Message. Envelope. 5 x 7½ in. \$.15 each. No. 27T5618.

PUPIL'S CERTIFICATE

For faithful attendance and participation. French fold, full color. Envelope. 5½ x 6¾ in. \$.05 each. No. 27T5614.

BEAUTIFUL • FUNCTIONAL • ECONOMICAL



SUPPORT YOUR CHURCH-OWNED PUBLISHING HOUSE

Lutheran Publishing House
 200 SOUTH FIFTH STREET
 BLAIR, NEBRASKA

For the Bride

The lasting, loving keepsake—
 The new beautiful
BRIDE'S PRAYER BOOK
 Her most treasured and ever-present reminder of the wedding day. Prayers and poems, some new, some old. For use by any denomination. Contains presentation page and decorated marriage certificate. Gift boxed. White ribbon marker. Size, 3¾" x 5¼". Two de luxe white bindings: Leather, gold stamped, gold edges, \$6.00; Fabrikoid, silver stamped, silver edges, \$3.75.
MUHLENBERG PRESS • Philadelphia

Lutheran Publishing House
 200 S. Fifth Street
 Blair, Nebraska

Please send me the following:

- Poster, No. 27T5610
- Postcard, No. 27T5611
- Letterhead, No. 84T1064
- Letterhead, No. 84T1063
- Buttons, No. 28T5616
- Buttons, No. 28T5615
- Offering Envelopes, No. 86T1018
- Banner, No. 27T5613
- Doorknob Hanger, No. 27T5619
- Dodger, No. 27T5612
- Bulletins, No. 84T1062
- Worker's Certificate, No. 27T5618
- Pupil's Certificate, No. 27T5614
- Bride's Prayer Book

I enclose \$ — C.O.D. — Charge —

Name

Address

CAPITOL UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
 COLUMBUS 9 OHIO